

CONGRATS TO ...

Montana Arts Council accountant **Carleen Layne**, who was recently honored by Gov. Steve Bullock with the 2013 Governor's Award for Excellence. "Carleen has been the accountant for the Montana Arts Council for over 35 years, and for all those years she has been a rock-solid performer," says MAC Executive Director Arni Fishbaugh. "She is undaunted, tireless, hysterically funny, committed and right as rain. When she delivers a report, an answer or her opinion, you know it can be trusted 100%. She is also incredibly creative, and has generated the initial ideas that eventually have become some of our most important agency programs."



Carleen Layne with Gov. Steve Bullock and Lt. Gov. John Walsh

(Photo by Jerry Kozak)

Mainstreet Uptown Butte, which was one of only a dozen communities in the United States to receive an Our Town creative placemaking award of \$150,000 for 2013-'14. The Butte Art Works project will require a collaborative effort to raise \$200,000 in grants and in-kind services. The grant will support a new project, Butte Arts Works, and provides funds to support three tracks: mapping cultural assets; encouraging living and working opportunities in Butte for artists to help re-inhabit the Uptown area; and enhancing efforts already underway to encourage residencies by guest artists to help reflect Butte's most cherished assets back through their art. Stay tuned for more details in the next issue of *State of the Arts*.

Casey Brown, a former Flathead Valley student, who has a prominent role in the Civil War film "Copperhead." Brown was raised in Bigfork and attended Flathead High School in Kalispell. He was involved in the Bigfork Playhouse Children's Theatre as a junior high student, and the Alpine Kids! Theatre Project in high school, eventually becoming a summer intern in Alpine Theatre Project's professional season, and assisting Academy Award-winning actress Olympia Dukakis in 2008. "What arts education teaches children that they don't get in regular curricula is the link between the imagined and the possible," says Brown. "Growing up with two of the nation's best children's theatres in my backyard taught me that I could do anything I wanted with my life." In honor of those programs, Brown arranged for "Copperhead" to get its Montana premiere Aug. 23 in Whitefish and Aug. 26 in Bigfork. The screenings not only helped raise awareness and funds for the two educational programs, they also showed local theatre students that acting careers can happen if people are willing to work for them. "I was in these programs just five years ago," says Brown. "It's all possible."

Jackie Bread, Blackfeet beadwork artist, who took first place in the beadwork category and Best of Show at the 2013 Indian Market, Aug. 12-18 in Santa Fe, NM. Bread's winning piece, "Memory Keeper," is a hatbox featuring a colorful beaded image of a Native American man. The box also contains two pouches with sepia-tone images of other faces, also made of beads, in the style of historical photographs that would have been placed inside the box for safekeeping. It won Best of Show after five rounds of secret balloting by judges in all classifications, who noted how perfectly finished the Blackfeet artist's entry was, inside and out: "No raw edges anywhere!" With more than 900 pieces from 400 artists vying for awards, choosing a single piece as Best of Show was a daunting task. The faces portrayed in the piece represent Bread's relatives, she told the *Santa Fe New Mexican*, and she thought of their lives as she beaded their faces. Because of that connection, Bread said, the award honors multiple generations.

Tom Dean, whose wood carvings are on display Sept. 26-Nov. 9 at the Western Heritage Cowboy Hall of Fame in Hobbs, NM. This marks the first solo show for the Great Falls artist, who is a member of MAC's Montana Circle of American Masters. The show is titled "Art of The Fish: Exotic Wood Carvings by Tom Dean."

Montana sculptor **Kate Hunt**, whose exhibit, "New Works," was on display Aug. 15-Sept. 4 at the Diehl Gallery in Jackson, WY. The exhibition was a benefit for the Art Association of Jackson Hole.

Great Falls artist **Carol Spurgeon**, whose painting "Hunting Camp 2012, Two Feet of Snow" was selected for the 33rd International Exhibition of the San Diego Watercolor Society. Spurgeon is a signature member of the Montana Watercolor Society, and says she "decided to stretch a bit further" in applying for the show, which attracted more than 600 entries from many countries. Noted artist, workshop teacher and book author Jean Grastorf selected 95 pieces for the exhibition, held Sept. 24-Oct. 30. The



"Memory Keeper" by Jackie Bread



"Art of the Fish" exhibit by Tom Dean



"Hunting Camp 2012, Two Feet of Snow" by Carol Spurgeon

painting was inspired by the story of three hunters who braved dense fog, cold temperatures and deep snow. The artist is a member of Gallery 16 in Great Falls, and has won awards in local, state and national competitions.

Joliet artist **Charles Ringer**, who received the William E. Weiss Purchase Award at the 2013 Buffalo Bill Art Show and Sale in Cody, WY. Each year, a jury purchases a piece of art for the permanent collection of the Buffalo Bill Center of the West. The artist's piece, a kinetic steel and copper sculpture titled "Indian Paintbrush," will be on permanent display at the museum. Ringer was an honored artist at this year's event, held Sept. 20.

Hamilton blacksmith **Glenn Gilmore**, proprietor of Gilmore Architectural Blacksmith Studio in Hamilton, who won the Best Artist-Metal award for the second year in a row at the 21st annual Western Design Conference (WDC) in Jackson Hole, WY. The award includes a cash prize of \$1,000, sponsored by Fighting Bear Antiques of Jackson. The artist's winning piece is a set of fireplace doors titled "Morning Rays." A signature event of the Jackson Hole Fall Arts Festival, the WDC took place Sept. 5-8; winners, chosen by a panel of six judges, were announced Sept. 6 at the Design Excellence Awards Ceremony and Celebratory Reception at the Snow King Center. Hosted by *Teton Home and Living* magazine, the event has brought in hundreds of crafts people, scholars, collectors, interior designers, architects, and fashion designers with an interest in the West.



Blacksmith Glenn Gilmore with "Morning Rays"

Missoula photographer **Alan Graham McQuillan**, whose five-picture series titled "The Bakken Oil Boom" took first place in the Panoramic category from the Lucie Foundation's 2013 International Photography Awards. In addition, his 2012 book, *Way Out: Street Photography Underground*, received an honorable mention in the Self-Published Books category; a second book, *Looking at Art: People Looking at Art*, is due out in October. The annual competition drew more than 18,000 entries from 104 countries. McQuillan, who began street photography in London during the 1960s, has lived in Montana for the past four decades. He retired from a university teaching career to pursue photography full time, and in 2009 was made an Associate of Britain's Royal Photography Society. He views his work as producing a sort of "slow news" that reports on everyday life.

Bozeman artists **Susan Blackwood** and **Howard Friedland**, who each had a painting juried into the the 14th Annual National Exhibition of the American Impressionist Society, on display Sept. 28-Nov. 2 at the M Gallery of Fine Art in Charleston, SC. "Dusty" by Blackwood and "Retired" by Friedland were among 180 paintings selected for the prestigious exhibit of oils, pastels, acrylics and watercolors.

Whitehall artist **Janice Bogy**, whose scratchboard work, "Quiet Presence," was selected by North Light Books for its publication, *Strokes of Genius 6 – Value/Lights and Darks*. This book features 144 works from more than 1,500 submissions of the "best of drawing" for 2013 from the United States and abroad. The sixth in a series of books on excellence in drawing, *Strokes of Genius 6*, will be released in October 2014. Each year North Light Books chooses a different focus on drawing and over half of the images are dedicated to black and white media. The theme for 2013 was value. "Scratchboard seemed like a perfect choice to dramatize light and dark value," says the artist. The subject of this piece is a magnificent Siberian tiger that resides at the Triple D Game Farm in Kalispell, giving the Montana artist the opportunity to get up-close and personal with an endangered species rarely seen in the wild. This work also won second place at the Montana Interpretations Show, held in June in Butte, and was juried into the Breckenridge Fine Arts Center's 22nd annual Juried Art Show, July 30-Sept. 7 in Breckenridge, TX, featuring works from 15 states.

Helena artist **Karen Luckey**, who had two paintings juried into national exhibits. "Secret Space" was selected for the 23rd annual Best of America Exhibition, held by the National Oil and Acrylic Painters Society, with exhibits Sept. 27-Nov. 20 at two locations in Missouri, Dunnigan Gallery of Art in Bolivar and the Vine Gallery in Osage Beach (www.noaps.org). Her painting titled "The Thayer – West Point" was juried into the American Artists Professional League's 85th Grand National Exhibition, Oct. 5-Dec. 30 at the Salmagundie Club in New York City, NY (www.americanartistsprofessionalleague.org).

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Send us your good news

Artists, writers, musicians, arts educators and arts administrators: Please let us know about major awards and accomplishments, especially beyond the borders of Montana.

Send your good news to Congrats, c/o *Lively Times*, 33651 Eagle Pass Trail, Charlo, MT 59824; or email: writeus@livelytimes.com.

If you include a digital photo, please make sure it's at least 150 lines per inch (lpi or dpi) or file size of over 300kb (no more than 2mb, please).

Congrats compiled by Kristi Niemeyer for *State of the Arts*



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Meet up with MAC on Facebook

"Like" us for updates on Montana Arts Council activities and opportunities, as well as information for and about artists, arts events and organizations across the state: www.facebook.com/pages/Montana-Arts-Council/347466251951287.

CONGRATS TO ...

Gordon Johnson, music director of the Great Falls Symphony, who became president of the Conductors Guild during the organization's annual conference, held in St. Louis in June. Throughout its 35-year history the Conductors Guild has served as an advocate for the conducting profession throughout the world. Its membership of over 1,600 represents conductors on a global scale. During his tenure as conductor with the Great Falls Symphony, Johnson has been known for his energetic performances and dynamic leadership. In addition to his responsibilities in Great Falls, Maestro Johnson maintains a busy schedule, guest conducting orchestras throughout the United States, Canada, England, Japan, Germany and France. In February 2009 he was invited by the United States State Department to conduct an American music program with the National Philharmonic of Moldova. He also served as the music director of the Glacier Symphony in Kalispell from 1982-1997 and the Mesa Symphony in Arizona from 1997-2005, and was the director of orchestras at the Red Lodge Music Festival from 2006-2011.



Gordon Johnson

Kalispell journalist **Mark Holston**, who recently presented a research paper on jazz in Latin America at the first ever Global Circulations of Jazz (Les Circulations Globales Du Jazz) conference in Paris, organized by the University of Paris. His paper was "Caribbean Currents and Beyond: The Dissemination of Jazz in Caribbean Basin Nations, Chile, Argentina and Paraguay." The conference was attended by jazz scholars from throughout the world. Among the over two-dozen presenters, Holston was the only non-academic invited to present. He is a music critic for *Jazziz* and *Latino* magazines and the All About Jazz website (www.allaboutjazz.com). Boston's Berklee College of Music has selected the paper to be included in its presentations for the college's Global Jazz Institute.

Missoula author **Dorothy Patent**, whose book, *When the Wolves Returned: Saving Nature's Balance in Yellowstone*, was chosen to represent Montana for the National Book Festival, held Sept. 21-22 in Washington, DC. "I love that a book that explains why wolves are a vital part of the ecosystem has received this honor," says Patent.

Humanities Montana and **Montana Public Radio**, which were among 49 nonprofit organizations from the Pacific Northwest that received grants from the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation. According to a press release from the foundation, located in Seattle, WA, "Our grantees are doers, and their critical actions are translating into meaningful impact across the Pacific Northwest and beyond." Humanities Montana received \$15,000 to support the Montana Festival of the Book, and Montana Public Radio was given \$15,000 for its weekly program, "The Write Question."

The **Montana Association of Teachers of English Language Arts**, which has been named one of eight recipients of the 2013 Affiliate Excellence Award, given by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). This marks the second time the affiliate, whose president is **Curtis Bobbitt** of Great Falls, has won the award. The Affiliate Excellence Award was established in 1996 to honor NCTE affiliates that meet high standards of performance for programming and promote improvement in English language arts teaching.

Montana Silversmiths of Columbus, which celebrates 40 years in business in 2013. The company highlighted this anniversary with several special events throughout the year, including a series of new products and collections inspired by the company's history and the heritage of the West, new design branding and an exhibit at the Museum of the Beartooths. The company is known for its skilled craftsmen, who have perfected a combination of traditional western designs and crisply executed engraving styles.



Jack Gladstone

Musician and storyteller **Jack Gladstone**, who was inducted into the University of Washington's Hall of Fame during a ceremony Oct. 15 in Seattle. Gladstone grew up in Seattle with a Blackfeet Indian father who served in World War II and a German-American mother. He attended UW on a full football scholarship, which he later noted, "meant far more to me intellectually and academically than it would ever mean athletically." In addition to music and anthropology studies, Gladstone began taking classes in the Speech Communication department. It was there he learned that "ultimately, music is a language of the heart ... That is where I took my first public speaking course, and after that I was in love ... with the process of experiencing and opening myself to a topic and then having the topic open itself to me. In this process I became fully engrained and fully consumed." Gladstone still uses this process of "surrendering to a subject" for songwriting. After a brief stint working construction following graduation and singing in saloons during off hours, he taught Public Speaking at Blackfeet Community College in Browning from 1983-86 and coached high school football and track. In 1987, he began a full-time career in music, recording his first CD in 1988. Gladstone has now recorded 15 critically acclaimed albums, including his latest, *Native Anthropology*, co-produced by Grammy and Emmy nominee Phil Aaberg. "As a musician, Jack is respected by all, and elevates any concert or recording by his skill, commitment and art," Aaberg said. "In the greater world, he is a strong spokesman for unity and clear-thinking, and there is no greater calling than that."

Bozeman author **Paul Schullery**, who received an honorary doctorate of letters on May 3 from one of his alma maters, Ohio University in Athens, where he received a master's degree in American history in 1977. The citation said, in part, "As an acclaimed author and graduate of Ohio University, you have made your mark through a professional writing career dedicated to wildlife and its conservation. As an author, editor or contributor for more than 65 books about history, nature and outdoor sport, the profound breadth and depth of your works have earned you distinction among writers ... Your passion and regard for the natural world continues to inspire many different audiences. And your influence on conservation management epitomizes the potential of committing oneself and one's work wholly to a cause." This marks his second honorary doctorate; he received his first from Montana State University in 1997. "I can't imagine getting used to receiving awards like this," writes Schullery. "I accept them with the uneasy feeling that some clerical error has been made, and someone else is supposed to be standing up there in front of thousands of people being praised so fulsomely. It's a great thrill to have one's work recognized this way; most of the time writers just send their books out into the world and often have very little way to measure their effect." In addition to authoring books, Schullery has written for many popular and technical publications, including *The New York Times*, *Orion*, *American Forests* and *Country Journal*. During his National Park Service career (1972-77 and 1988-2008), he was the founding editor of *Yellowstone Science*, Yellowstone Park's quarterly journal of natural and cultural sciences. He also wrote and narrated the 2002 PBS/ABC film "Yellowstone: America's Sacred Wilderness," for which he received a Panda Award for scriptwriting from Wildscreen International. He was an advisor for, and frequent interviewee, in the Ken Burns film "The National Parks: America's Best Idea" (2009); and is currently scholar-in-residence at the Montana State University Library, Bozeman.



Paul Schullery



Jody Grant

Welcome to **Jody Grant**, who has been named the Alberta Bair Theater's director of marketing and corporate relations. Grant comes to ABT from RiverStone Health Foundation where she served as the marketing and annual fund coordinator. Her experience includes many years as director of marketing and public relations with the Billings Symphony, graphic designer for the *Billings Gazette* and production artist with *The Billings Outpost*. Grant has a degree in international relations and journalism and taught English in Japan and the Czech Republic. "We are very fortunate to have someone with Jody's skills and passion for the performing arts who also comes with an intimate knowledge of Billings and many established contacts within the local media community," said ABT Executive Director William Wood.

Welcome to **Craig Huisenga**, who was recently hired as interim managing producer at NOVA Center for the Performing Arts in Billings. He replaces Matthew Haney, who resigned to return to Kansas City due to family obligations. Huisenga has been active as a Youth Conservatory and Summer Theater School teacher and a director and actor at Venture Theatre, which recently merged with Rimrock Opera to form NOVA. He has been a member of the NOVA Artistic Committee and was a director for the Wet Ink Festival at NOVA, directed the Billings Studio Theatre production of "Is He Dead?" and directed "Dying City" and "History Boys" at Venture Theatre. He is currently in rehearsal, directing NOVA's production of "August: Osage County," which opens Nov. 8. A Billings native, Huisenga returned to his hometown four years ago after 12 years in San Diego and 16 years in Seattle working as a professional actor, director, teacher and administrator. He brings experience in management, marketing, sales, public relations and customer service to his new post. He is currently an adjunct teacher at Rocky Mountain College. "We're thrilled to have someone from our own community taking the leadership role at NOVA," said board president Cam Saberhagen.



Craig Huisenga